James G. Kinnick, P.E. 100 East Federal Street Youngstown, Ohio, 44503

October 24, 2017

The Honorable Sherrod Brown 713 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear U.S. Senator Brown:

The Eastgate Regional Council of Governments supports your efforts to provide a significant investment in our nations bridge infrastructure. Ohio's bridge infrastructure, both urban and rural, is aging. This presents an urgent need to address our structurally-deficient and functionally-obsolete bridges. I am contacting you on behalf of our governing board to offer our support and assistance in your efforts to address this problem.

Existing funding mechanisms for state and local municipalities are inadequate, and the shortfall is resulting in increasing burdens for all forms of government. Without a dedicated funding source, Ohio's bridge infrastructure will continue to deteriorate to an undesirable level. This is unacceptable at a time when infrastructure costs and needs are at an all-time high.

Please continue to work on passage of a Bridge Investment Act that provides additional, dedicated funding for our nations' and Ohio's bridge infrastructure.

Sincerely,

James G. Kinnick, P.E.

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